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The history of the eastern empire has been very much neglected by western historians. To most of them it is an unknown world. In this way the West has failed to appreciate its great debt to the East. This debt is far greater than most of us have supposed. While we have been busy developing a magnificent civilization we have been unmindful of how many of our ideas have come from the East, and especially have we forgotten the indispensable service rendered us in the way of protection from the Saracenic hordes. Had it not been for the steady and persistent opposition of the eastern emperors the West would certainly have been overrun, our springing ideas would have been blighted, and our civilization must have been far different from what it is.

For this reason we welcome the scholarly and fascinating work of M. Vogt.² In the introduction he gives us a valuable critical study of the sources, such as: the historians and chroniclers; the law books; the religious documents; and the works of different contemporaneous writers on geography, strategy, etc.

The volume is divided into four books. In the first book he discusses the Byzantine Empire from the death of Theophilus to the retirement of Theodora (842-846); the origins of Basil; his personality; his character; his ideas; the imperial family; the court.

The second book deals with the internal government of Basil I; his first public acts; financial administration; legislation; judicial organization; administration of the church.

The third book has to do with external affairs—wars and military administration.

In the fourth book we have a charming presentation of Byzantine civilization—the land; slaves and freedmen; Byzantine commerce to the ninth century; and Byzantine art under the government of Basil.

J. W. MONCRIEF

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE EDUCATIONAL IDEAL IN THE MINISTRY

One of the best evidences of the significance of the pulpit in modern life is the vitality of the Yale Lectureship on Preaching. No lecturer now concerns himself with formal homiletics. That task has perhaps been sufficiently well done. But each year the able preacher who is appointed to the lectureship finds some vital subject upon which to speak.

The 1908 lectures were delivered by President W. H. P. Faunce, who

² *Basil, 1^{er} Empereur de Byzance (867-886) et la civilisation byzantine à la fin du ix^e siècle.* Par Albert Vogt. Paris: Picard, 1908. 447 pages. Fr. 7.50.

selected for his subject, "The Educational Ideal in the Ministry."¹ He conceives the liturgical, the magisterial, and even the oratorical ideals, to belong to the past. The minister for today is to be a teacher. Not that he is to cease to be a preacher. Indeed Dr. Faunce finely calls attention to the fact that this is the great day of preaching. Everyone is preaching, even chief magistrates. But it is preaching with the educative aim. It is man talking with man upon the high interests and the high themes, on which he has convictions.

An educational ideal in the ministry means scholarship, an appreciation of the modern scientific point of view, an understanding of the real value of the Scriptures, a realization that the pulpit must be ethical in its doctrine and leadership. The minister must of course order his work and appreciate his problems in the light of modern psychology. And he must gain expertness in the new science of religious education. Dr. Faunce does not confine himself to the Sunday school, nor simply add the young people's organizations, in considering the educational aspects of the church. He considers the whole church as a school in which the whole congregation is to be developed in spiritual apprehension, in social sympathy and knowledge, and in the activities which are the expression of the inner life. The basis for a ministry of increasing power and the dangers of popular oratory are significantly discussed.

In view of this ideal of the ministry Dr. Faunce does not fail to call attention to the need of a reorganization of the curriculum of the theological seminary to meet the demands of the modern church.

It is a notable book. It cannot fail to be an inspiration to the ministry. The minister whose ideal has not been educational ought to find the argument convincing. It is an excellent book to put into the hands of the young man who is considering the ministerial calling, that he may gain a larger view of the significance of the modern church.

The book is written with the charm, strength, and felicity of diction that characterize all the writings of this master of English.

THEO. G. SOARES

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¹ *The Educational Ideal in the Ministry*, by W. H. P. Faunce. New York: Macmillan, 1908. 286 pages. \$1.25.